

SUPPORTING STATEMENT

Sworn Statement of Refugee Applying for Admission into the United States

Form G-646

OMB No. 1651-0115

A. Justification.

1. Section 207 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) authorizes the Secretary, Department of Homeland Security (Department) to admit refugees that are admissible. The information collection required on Form G-646, Sworn Statement of Refugee Applying for Admission into the United States, is necessary in order for the Department to make a determination that the admissibility grounds and conditions are met by the applicant. Upon approval of the application for refugee status the applicant is eligible for admission to the United States as a refugee.

Authority: Section 207 of the INA.

2. The data collected on this form is used by the Department to determine eligibility for the admission of applicants to the United States as refugees. The form serves the purpose of ensuring that basic information required to assess eligibility is provided to petitioners, and standardizing requests for the benefit. The revision of the form incorporates statutory changes in the admissibility grounds that affect refugees.
3. The use of this form provides the most efficient means for collecting and processing the required data. In this case the Department does not employ the use of information technology in collecting and processing information. The Department does not have the

automated capability in place to accept the electronic submission of applications. In addition, most refugee processing occurs in remote areas without access to such information technology.

4. A review of the DHS Forms Inventory Report revealed no duplication of effort, and there is no other similar information currently available, which can be used for this purpose.
5. This collection of information does not have an impact on small business or other small entities.
6. Without this information collection, the DHS will not be able to determine the admissibility of refugees.
7. The special circumstances contained in item 7 of the supporting statement are not applicable to this information collection.
8. The DHS published a notice in the Federal Register on July 19, 2005, at 70 FR 41416. The notice allowed for a 60-day public review and comment period. No public comments were received by the DHS for this information collection request.
9. The DHS does not provide payment or gifts to respondents in exchange for a benefit sought.
10. There is no assurance of confidentiality. However, the Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-589) mandates that personal information solicited from individuals completing Federal records and forms shall be kept confidential. Additionally, the respondent is informed that the response to this information collection is voluntary.
11. The questions of a sensitive nature regarding particular behavior, health conditions and particular beliefs are required to determine admissibility under section 212 of the INA to the United States. This information is used to determine the applicant's admissibility.

12. Annual Reporting Burden:

a. Number of Respondents	75,000
b. Number of responses per each Respondent	1
c. Total Annual Responses	75,000
d. Hours per Response	.0333
e. Total Annual Reporting Burden	24,975

Annual Reporting Burden

The total annual reporting burden hours is 24,975. This figure was derived by multiplying the number of respondents (75,000) x frequency of response (1) x 20 minutes (.0333 hours) per response. The projected hours per response for this collection of information were based on previous DHS experience with this form and were derived by first breaking the process into three basic components:

Learning about the Law and the Form:	5 Minutes
Completing the Form:	10 Minutes
Assembling and Filing the Form:	5 Minutes
TOTAL Hour Burden	20 Minutes

13. There are no capital or start-up costs associated with this information collection. Any cost burdens to respondents as a result of this collection are identified in item 14. Additionally, there is no fee charge for this information collection.

14. Annualized Cost Analysis:

a. Printing Cost	\$ 13,500
------------------	-----------

b. Collection and Processing Cost	\$ 1,500,000
c. Total Cost to Program	\$ 1,513,500
d. Fee Charge	\$ 0
e. Total Cost to Government	\$ 1,513,500

Government Cost

The estimated cost to the Government is \$1,513,500. This figure is calculated by using the estimated number of respondents 75,000 x 30 minutes (time required to collect and process information) x \$40 (suggested average hourly rate for clerical, officer and supervisory time with benefits). In addition, this figure includes the estimated overhead cost for printing, stocking, and distributing the form that is \$13,500.

Public Cost

The estimated annual public cost is \$ 249,750. This estimate is based on the number of respondents (75,000) x 20 Minutes (.0333 hours) per response x \$10 (Average hourly rate).

15. There has been a decrease of 12,525 burden hours previously reported for this information collection. This decrease results from a reduction in the overall time for learning about the form, and completing and filing the form from 30 minutes to 20 minutes.
16. DHS does not intend to employ the use of statistics or the publication thereof for this collection of information.
17. The DHS is not seeking a waiver of the requirement to display the expiration date.

18. The DHS does not request an exception to the certification of this information collection. See attached Item 19 of Form OMB 83-I.

B. Collection of Information Employing Statistical Methods.

Not Applicable.

C. Certification and Signature.

PAPERWORK CERTIFICATION

In submitting this request for OMB approval, I certify that the requirements of the Privacy Act and OMB directives have been complied with including paperwork regulations, statistical standards or directives, and any other information policy directives promulgated under 5 CFR 1320.

Richard A. Sloan

Dated:

Director,

Regulatory Management Division.